

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed July 29, 2008 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment and following remarks have been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1-5, 7-17, 19 and 20 stand rejected. Claims 6 and 18 are objected to.

Applicants acknowledge Examiner's indication that Claims 6 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 6 depends directly from Claim 5. By the above amendment, independent Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to include limitations of original dependent Claims 5 and 6, and independent Claims 14 and 15 have been amended to include limitations of original dependent Claim 18. Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and solicit notification to that effect.

The rejection of Claims 1, 2, 8, 10, 12, 13, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,313,632 (Aoki) is respectfully traversed.

Aoki describes a magnetic field generator (10) and a plurality of packing members (26). Each packing member (26) includes a shielding member (34) fabricated from a low cost material, such as plywood, that facilitates prohibiting magnetic objects from entering magnetic field generator (10) during transport. Magnetic field generator (10) includes a plurality of openings (28) that are shielded by a respective shielding member (34). Notably, Aoki does not describe or suggest a member made of a closely woven non-magnetic material, wherein at least a portion of the member covers an opening defined by a generator body.

Claim 1 recites a magnetic field generator for MRI including:

a member, made of a closely woven non-magnetic material, for covering the whole generator main body, at least a portion of said member covering an opening defined by said generator body.

Applicants respectfully submit that Aoki does not describe or suggest a magnetic field generator as recited in Claim 1. More specifically, Aoki does not describe or suggest a member made of a closely woven non-magnetic material, wherein at least a portion of the

member covers an opening defined by a generator body. Rather, Aoki merely describes a shielding member fabricated from plywood.

Moreover, Claim 1 has been amended to include limitations of original dependent Claims 5 and 6. Claim 6 depends directly from Claim 5, and the Examiner has indicated that original dependent Claim 6 contains allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Aoki.

Claim 2 recites a magnetic field generator for MRI including:

a member, made of a closely woven non-magnetic material, for covering one of a top and a side of said generator main body, a side of said generator main body, and a bottom and a side of said generator main body, at least a portion of said member covering an opening defined by said generator main body.

Applicants respectfully submit that Aoki does not describe or suggest a magnetic field generator as recited in Claim 2. More specifically, Aoki does not describe or suggest a member made of a closely woven non-magnetic material, wherein at least a portion of the member covers an opening defined by a generator main body. Rather, Aoki merely describes a shielding member fabricated from plywood.

Moreover, Claim 2 has been amended to include limitations of original dependent Claims 5 and 6. Claim 6 depends directly from Claim 5, and the Examiner has indicated that original dependent Claim 6 contains allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 2 is submitted to be patentable over Aoki.

Claims 8, 10, 12, and 13 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 2. When the recitations of Claims 8, 10, 12, and 13 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 2, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claims 8, 10, 12, and 13 likewise are patentable over Aoki.

Claim 15 recites a method of covering a magnetic field generator for MRI including:

covering one of a top and a side of the generator main body, a side of the generator main body, and a bottom and a side of the generator main body with a member made of a non-magnetic material, at least a first portion of the member covering an

opening defined by the generator main body, and a second portion of the member made of a closely woven fabric

Applicants respectfully submit that Aoki does not describe or suggest a method of covering a magnetic field generator as recited in Claim 15. More specifically, Aoki does not describe or suggest covering generator main body with a member made of a non-magnetic material, wherein at least a first portion of the member covers an opening portion defined by the generator main body, and a second portion of the member is made of a closely woven fabric. Rather, Aoki merely describes a shielding member fabricated from plywood.

Moreover, Claim 15 has been amended to include limitations of original dependent Claim 18. Examiner has indicated that original dependent Claim 18 contains allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 15 is submitted to be patentable over Aoki.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 1, 2, 8, 10, 12, 13, and 15 under Section 102 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 5 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japanese Utility Model Application JP3-35071 (Noguchi) is respectfully traversed. The Office Action cites only Noguchi for rejecting Claims 5 and 17, but describes Aoki and Noguchi. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner rejected Claims 5 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aoki in view of Noguchi and proceed as such.

Aoki is described above.

Noguchi describes a cover for packing furniture including a fastener (2), an obverse cloth (3), a reverse cloth (4), and a buffer mat (5). Notably, Noguchi does not describe or suggest a member made of a closely woven non-magnetic material, wherein at least a portion of the member covers an opening defined by a generator body.

Claim 2 is recited above.

Applicants respectfully submit that no combination of Aoki and Noguchi does not describe or suggest a magnetic field generator as recited in Claim 2. More specifically, no

combination of Aoki and Noguchi does not describe or suggest a member made of a closely woven non-magnetic material, wherein at least a portion of the member covers an opening defined by a generator main body. Rather, Aoki merely describes a shielding member fabricated from plywood, and Noguchi merely describes a cover for packing furniture that includes a plurality of layers.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 2 is submitted to be patentable over Aoki in view of Noguchi.

Claim 5 depends from independent Claim 2. When the recitations of Claim 5 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 2, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claim 5 likewise is patentable over Aoki in view of Noguchi.

Claim 15 is recited above.

Applicants respectfully submit that no combination of Aoki and Noguchi does not describe or suggest a method of covering a magnetic field generator as recited in Claim 15. More specifically, no combination of Aoki and Noguchi does not describe or suggest covering a generator main body with a member made of a non-magnetic material, wherein at least a first portion of the member covers an opening portion defined by the generator main body, and a second portion of the member is made of a closely woven fabric. Rather, Aoki merely describes a shielding member fabricated from plywood, and Noguchi merely describes a cover for packing furniture that includes a plurality of layers.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 15 is submitted to be patentable over Aoki in view of Noguchi.

Claim 17 depends from independent Claim 15. When the recitations of Claim 17 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 15, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claim 17 likewise is patentable over Aoki in view of Noguchi.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 5 and 17 under Section 103 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 14, 16, 19, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aoki in view of U.S. Patent 1,973,932 (Sharp) is respectfully traversed.

Aoki is described above.

Sharp describes constructing wire bound boxes (not numbered) that include a foldable mat (1) with panels (not numbered) that facilitate assembling the box. Each panel includes a frame with an upper cleat (2), a lower band member (3), upright members (4, 5), and diagonal cross members (6, 7). Each panel is fabricated with a nailing machine (not numbered) and is coupled to adjacent box sides by a plurality of wires (8). Notably, Sharp does not describe or suggest a member made of a closely woven non-magnetic material, wherein at least a portion of the member covers an opening defined by a generator body.

Claim 2 is recited above.

Applicants respectfully submit that no combination of Aoki and Sharp does not describe or suggest a magnetic field generator as recited in Claim 2. More specifically, no combination of Aoki and Sharp does not describe or suggest a member made of a closely woven non-magnetic material, wherein at least a portion of the member covers an opening defined by a generator main body. Rather, Aoki merely describes a shielding member fabricated from plywood, and Sharp merely describes a box that includes a plurality of panels coupled by wires.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 2 is submitted to be patentable over Aoki in view of Sharp.

Claims 3, 4, 7, 9, and 11 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 2. When the recitations of Claims 3, 4, 7, 9, and 11 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 2, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claims 3, 4, 7, 9, and 11 likewise are patentable over Aoki in view of Sharp.

Claim 14 recites a method of covering a magnetic field generator for MRI including:

covering the whole generator main body with a member made
of a non-magnetic material, at least a first portion of the
member covering an opening defined by the generator main
body, and a second portion of the member made of a closely
woven fabric

Applicants respectfully submit that no combination of Aoki and Sharp does not describe or suggest a method of covering a magnetic field generator as recited in Claim 14. More specifically, no combination of Aoki and Sharp does not describe or suggest covering a

whole generator main body with a member made of a non-magnetic material, wherein at least a first portion of the member covers an opening defined by the generator main body, and a second portion of the member is made of a closely woven fabric. Rather, Aoki merely describes a shielding member fabricated from plywood, and Sharp merely describes a box that includes a plurality of panels coupled by wires.

Moreover, Claim 14 has been amended to include limitations of original dependent Claim 18, which the Examiner has indicated contains allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 14 is submitted to be patentable over Aoki in view of Sharp.

Claim 15 is recited above.

Applicants respectfully submit that no combination of Aoki and Sharp does not describe or suggest a method of covering a Sharp field generator as recited in Claim 15. Specifically, no combination of Aoki and Sharp does not describe or suggest covering a generator main body with a member made of a non-magnetic material, wherein at least a first portion of the member covers an opening portion defined by the generator main body, and a second portion of the member is made of a closely woven fabric. Rather, Aoki merely describes a shielding member fabricated from plywood, and Sharp merely describes a box that includes a plurality of panels coupled by wires.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 15 is submitted to be patentable over Aoki in view of Sharp.

Claims 16, 19, and 20 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 15. When the recitations of Claims 16, 19, and 20 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 15, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claims 16, 19, and 20 likewise are patentable over Aoki in view of Sharp.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 14, 16, 19, and 20 under Section 103 be withdrawn.

Claims 6 and 18 were indicated as being objected to as dependent upon a rejected base claim, but allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 6 depends indirectly from independent Claim 2, which is submitted to be in condition for allowance. When the recitations of Claim 6 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 2, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claim 6 likewise is in condition for allowance.

Claim 18 depends from independent Claim 15, which is submitted to be in condition for allowance. When the recitations of Claim 18 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 15, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claim 18 likewise is in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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